

In your trenchant treatment of "An Old Fashioned Christian's" epistle you enlarge and broaden and

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THE ADDITION OF THE SOUTH.
SOUTHERNER'S VIEW OF THE INDUSTRIAL
SITUATION.
LOUISVILLE, Feb. 13, 1879.
TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—
For some weeks I have been in the South, on the Mississippi River. While the cry in political circles and among the wealthy in cities has been that proscription is coming with accelerated pace from financial legislation, which will make the negro the industrial laborer, and the white man the capitalist, the condition of affairs in the great Mississippi Valley. There I found among the laboring class almost a set of paupers. They were in rags; and when the latter cold weather came on they stayed housed for days, shivering over their fires, which luckily they could procure from the plentiful supplies of fuel at hand in the woods. From my observation of four-fifths of these laborers did not have a month's supply of provisions nor means to procure them. There was not one in ten who had the stock, wagons, ploughs, &c., with which to cultivate any land that they could rent. And among this class of people were to get through the coming year seemed to me a problem difficult of solution. They were disheartened, demoralized and destitute. Year after year they are coming steadily making no new crops, and yet at the end of each year they are poorer and yet at the end of each year they are poorer and poorer, until now the final annihilation comes in positive impoverishment. They are not educated; they do not hear discussion of political questions, which could enlighten them and teach at all this is the natural sequence of financial miseries, and that the shrinkage of values year after year has placed the cost of production at higher than the market value of products, especially in view of the system of supply to laborers which has prevailed in the past ten years throughout many sections of the South.

EFFECTS OF EMANCIPATION.
The radical leaders profess to have given the negro the great boon of liberty. On the contrary, they have taken him from the land, more deplorable than his prison prior to the war, and the same observation will demonstrate this to any fair minded man. And in addition to this terrible bondage which shackles and will destroy the negro race it is fast producing results which must entail evil consequences in the near future. There is being created a debt and ownership and a tenantry like that of Ireland, where absenteeism of the owner, the power of the tenant and the poverty of the people have produced such disaster to the material interests of that country, and has paralyzed the cause of education, religion and morals by the inevitable degradation of the poorer classes.

And in the South it must be remembered that the bordering classes have been slaves, without education and without the means of elevating their mental or moral faculties, and thus even far behind the poor fishermen, whose sufferings have been increased because they had the intellect for higher grades in life an circumstances have permitted.

CHANGE IN THE OWNERSHIP OF LANDS.
During the past six years there has been great change in ownership of lands South. Those who directed the war attempts to cultivate cotton and sugar and be deprived of their slaves, and the negroes, and in many instances had mortgages outstanding against them for prior debts. Many the land owners were the children of planters, reared in luxury and leisure, not understanding how to manage and not inured to labor, that has been the consequence? There was often no forethought, no calculation, not even energy. As the fathers used to rely upon the commission merchant to buy and sell for them, so the sons of the fathers, so the sons believed that this same commission merchant would avail when free labor had come in. They did not remain the subject to see what the laws of supply and demand would do, and the result was that the South increased their mortgage debt, their own personal expenses and the deficit for interest above the proceeds of crops; and the result came—no more plant in New Orleans has absorbed, and is utilizing through agents 60,000 acres of the best land in Mississippi. While the practical question in the mind of the aristocrat and the merchant is the question of the purchase of the lands by the rich and the formation of a tenant system, which must be the result of the aristocrat and the merchant, it is the result of being carried into effect, the result is the establishment of law of usurious interest and the sacrifice of the debtor land owner. And what becomes of the poor laborer? He is left to the mercy of the land owner South, and yearly there was thousands of the poor laborer who were reduced to poverty, sorrow and misfortune in drunkenness, and he who took a miserable existence until death released them from further worldly trouble.

Now, on the other hand, what is the condition of the former slave—the sort ready made for the dominant race? He is left to the mercy of the land owner, and he had good clothes, was well paid and well cared for as a slave, with good medical attendance when sick, and treated properly when old and infirm. Now, on the other hand, he has much less the political action of the radicals, and he is left to the mercy of the land owner. He is left to the mercy of the land owner, and he is left to the mercy of the land owner.

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